

## INFORMATION REPORT

25X1A

COUNTRY China

SEP 31 8 49 AM '48

DATE DISTR. 1 October 1948

SUBJECT Ed. [REDACTED] : Salt Production in Dabus  
Nor [REDACTED]

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PLACE ACQUIRED [REDACTED]

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NO. OF ENCLS.  
(LISTED BELOW)

DATE OF I [REDACTED]

SUPPLEMENT TO  
REPORT NO. 25X1X

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Comment. The date of the following information is unstated; the  
information was acquired [REDACTED] 25X1A

1. A large quantity of salt is being extracted from Dabus Nor (Salt Lake) (116-45- ) in Usumchin Right Banner of Silingol League. The salt is being heavily taxed by the Inner Mongolian People's Autonomous Government. The tax is paid either in silver or in commodities. The tax in silver amounts to between 30,000 and 40,000 taels per month. A large wagon is taxed twelve taels of silver per load, a medium-sized wagon eight taels and a small wagon four taels. Food and cloth are also received in payment of the tax. There is enough food and cloth stored at the lake to meet the needs of an army of 20,000 men.
2. The salt is taken to various regions within Chinese Communist territory, going as far south as Chihfeng (119-00, 42-18) as far east as Wangyehmiao (122-01, 46-05) and to western Chahar.
3. The existence of Dabus Nor has been recorded in history for at least 800 years. The strange phenomenon about this lake is that only part of it is very salty. The quantity of salt appears to be endless. The lake is shallow and the salt is about three feet under water in a bed about one foot in depth. The salt may be shoveled out directly on to the wagons. At one time the production was about 600,000 (?) pounds a day.

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Comment. The production of 600,000 pounds of salt per day appears to be greatly overestimated.)

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